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Governor's Commission to Reform Maryland's Pretrial System To Hold Its First Meeting

The Governor's Commission to Reform Maryland's Pretrial System will hold its first meeting on Thursday, June 26 at 1:00 p.m. in Rooms 5 and 6 at the Judiciary Education and Conference Center, 2011D Commerce Park Drive, Annapolis, Maryland, 21401.

The Commission was established by Governor Martin O'Malley when he issued an Executive Order on May 27, 2014. Members of the Commission will examine the pretrial justice system in Maryland, look at best practices from around the country, and assess the use of an objective risk assessment tool to inform pretrial release determinations.

In 2012, the Commission to Study the Laws and Policies Relating to Representation of Indigent Criminal Defendants by the Office of the Public Defender recommended that the State implement a validated risk assessment tool and establish a statewide pretrial system in Maryland. The Governor's Commission to Reform Maryland's Pretrial System will build on this previous Commission's recommendations, and move the reform process forward.

The Commission will issue its final report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Delegates by December 1, 2014.

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EDITORS: A list of the Commission members is attached.

Members the Governor's Commission to Reform Maryland's Pretrial System

Governor's Appointees:

1. Richard M. Karceski, Esq. – Chair. Mr. Karceski has his own legal practice in Towson and is a member of the Commission on Judicial Disabilities. He resides in Howard County.
2. Hon. Scott D. Shellenberger – State's Attorney's representative. Mr. Shellenberger is the State's Attorney for Baltimore County and is Vice President of Legislation for the Maryland State's Attorneys' Association.
3. Paul F. Kemp, Esq. – Maryland State Bar Association representative. Mr. Kemp is an Attorney with Ethridge, Quinn, Kemp, Rowan & Hartinger. He resides in Washington County.
4. Hon. Jesse Bane – Local Law Enforcement representative. Mr. Bane is the Sheriff of Harford County.
5. Brian J. Frank, Esq. – Bail Bond Industry representative. Mr. Frank is CEO, President and Director of Lexington National Insurance Corporation. He resides in Baltimore County.
6. Capt. Michael R. Merican – Maryland Correctional Administration Association representative. Captain Merican is a Police Captain and Warden for the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office. He resides in St. Mary's County.
7. Mary Lou McDonough - Maryland Correctional Administration Association representative. Ms. McDonough is Director of the Prince George's County Department of Corrections. She resides in Prince George's County.
8. Dorothy J. Lennig, Esq. – Victim Advocate. Ms. Lennig is Director of the House of Ruth Maryland Domestic Violence Legal Clinic. She resides in Howard County.
9. Cherise Fanno Burdeen – National Expert in Pretrial Services. Ms. Burdeen is Executive Director of the Pretrial Justice Institute. She resides in Montgomery County.
10. Angela Y. Talley – Local Government representative. Ms. Talley is Division Chief of Pretrial Services for Montgomery County. She resides in Frederick County.
11. Timothy F. Maloney, Esq. – Member. Mr. Maloney is an Attorney with Joseph, Greenwald and Laake. He resides in Montgomery County.
12. Hon. Steven I. Platt – Member. Judge Platt formerly served as a Judge of the Circuit Court, District Court and Orphans' Court for Prince George's County. He currently serves as President of The Platt Group, Inc. He resides in Anne Arundel County.
13. Rev. Dr. Sheridan Todd Yeary – Member. Rev. Dr. Yeary is Senior Pastor of the Douglas Memorial Community Church and is a member of the NAACP Maryland State Conference. He resides in Howard County.
14. Michael Schatzow, Esq. – Member. Mr. Schatzow is an Attorney with Venable, LLP. He resides in Baltimore City.
15. Jacqueline Robarge – Member. Ms. Robarge is the Founder of Power Inside, a human rights and harm reduction organization that serves women and girls who are survivors of gender-based violence and oppression. She resides in Baltimore City.

(more)

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Other members of the Governor's Commission to Reform Maryland's Pretrial System as specified in the Executive Order

2 members are appointed by the President of the Senate: Sen. Christopher Shank and Sen. Robert Zirkin

2 members are appointed by the Speaker of the House: Del. Joseline Pena-Melnyk and Del. Luke Clippinger

Secretary of DPSCS or designee: Wendell M. France, Operations Regional Executive Director – Central
Executive Director of GOCCP: Tammy Brown

Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals or designee: Hon. John P. Morrissey, Chief Judge of the District Courts

Public Defender of MD: Paul DeWolfe